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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the United States Patent and Trademark Office, Fax No. 1-703-872-9306 on December 30, 2004.

Donald S. Prater Kim Blum Signature

Name (Print) Signature

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: Kimmel et al.) Examiner: Ngoclan Thi Mai
Application Number: 10/653,520) Group Art Unit: 1742
Filed: September 2, 2003) Confirmation No.: 3339
Docket No.: 00138CIPCON (3600-360-01)) }

For: MODIFIED OXYGEN REDUCED VALVE METAL OXIDES

<u>AMENDMENT</u>

Mail Stop Amendment Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

December 30, 2004

Sir:

This Amendment is in response to the Office Action dated August 30, 2004, for which the Examiner has set a three-month period for response. A petition for a one-month extension of time and the requisite fee are submitted herewith, thus making the response due on or before December 30, 2004.

Please amend the above-identified application as follows:

Amendments to the claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 15 of this paper.